

**Update on History Night – Historic Alexandria Resource Commission Meeting  
(With the Archaeological Commission  
and the Historic Restoration & Preservation Commission)**

**Monday, June 15, 2010**

**7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**

**The Lyceum**

***Program:***

- 1. Welcome and Introduction**
- 2. Waterfront Concept Plan Presentation**  
*Karl Moritz, Deputy Director, Department of Planning & Zoning* [7:30– 8:00pm]
- 3. Open Discussion: History on the Waterfront Plan –** [8:00– 8:30pm]  
***Identifying Specific Opportunities and Implementation***
  - A.** West Point
  - B.** Point Lumley
  - C.** King Street Pier
  - D.** The Strand
  - E.** Union Street
  - F.** Other?
- 5. Summary and Next Steps**
  - A.** Summarization of the night's results
  - B.** Schedule for the ongoing planning process

**Thank you for your time and input!**

For More Information Contact:

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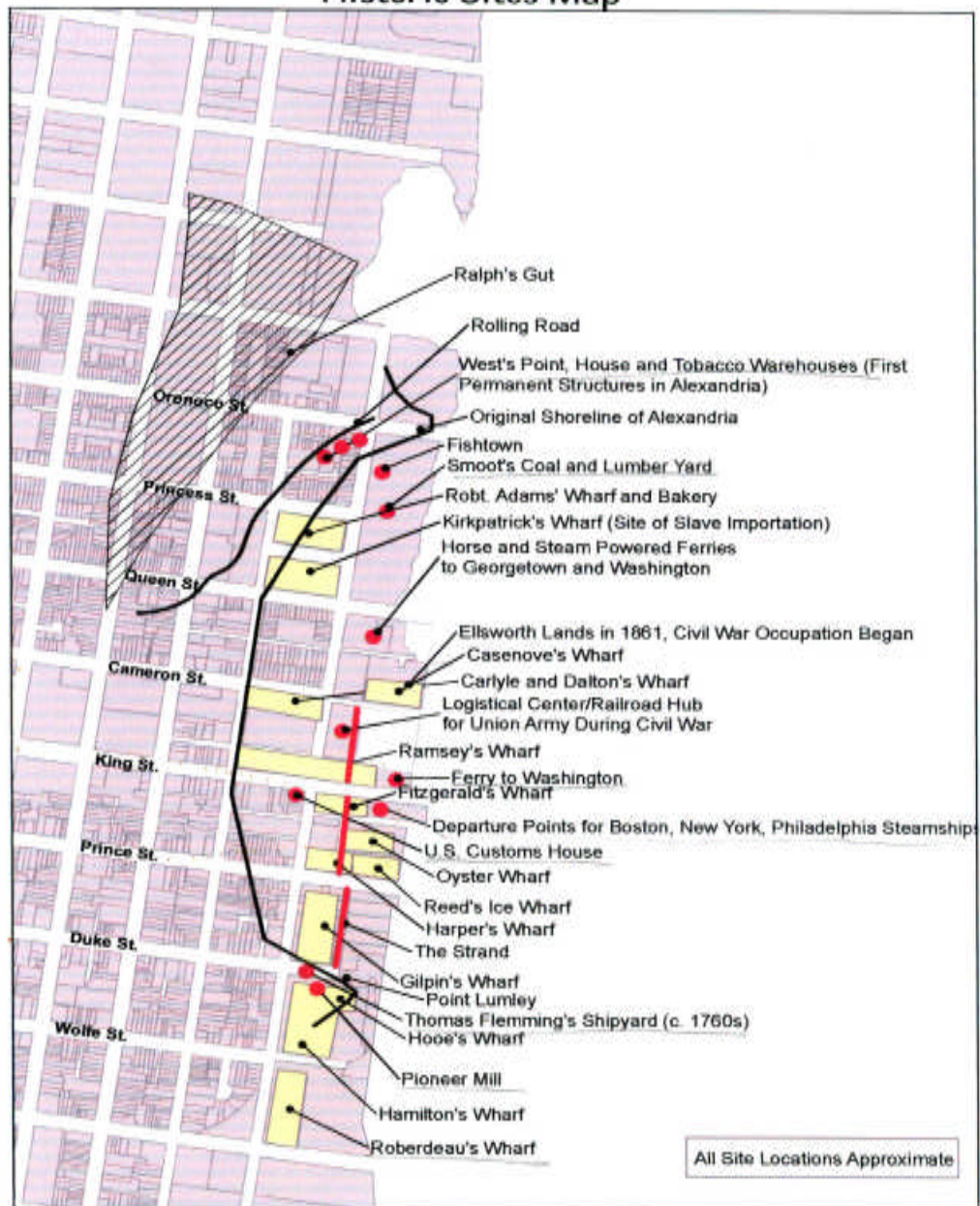
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## Alexandria Waterfront District Historic Sites Map



Map by Alexandria Archaeology

## History Night – Summary of Themes from Group Notes

	Priority Eras	Historic Shoreline	Fishtown	Point Lumley	Commerce and the Waterfront	African American
<b>Group #1</b>	Hard to chose an era; to pick one you lose history	Yes	Yes	Yes	Commerce period is important	Yes
<b>Group # 2</b>	Interpret more than the colonial era	Yes	Yes		Include some industry; incorporate its history as an operational waterfront	Benjamin Banneker in Jones Point
<b>Group # 3</b>	Interpret all eras; be balanced; consider the contemporary era also (soon it will be history)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Place commerce along the Strand; include public market; fish market; lumber history; remember shipbuilding	Slave quarters; slavery has many sores associated with it; slaves were artisans
	Preservation and adaptive reuse of buildings	Height	Scale	Architecture	Museum	Streetscape/Views
<b>Group #1</b>	Yes		New construction at compatible scale	Old and new architecture	Historic/Archaeological @ Tidelock	
<b>Group #2</b>	Yes; but do not include fake historic buildings	Height of existing buildings is right	Context and fiber are important; keep buildings at same scale	No fake historic buildings; emphasize context and fiber	Maritime at Strand	Enhance access; streets that go all the way to the water; open alleys; cobblestone, brick, & paving stone
<b>Group #3</b>	Yes; reuse and interpret historic warehouses carefully	Buildings should be smaller than Torpedo Factory	Same mass/scale or smaller	Contemporary art and architecture	Waterfront amphitheatre	Foot of King is important; important to see water; have views from water; & open alleys

## History Night – Summary of Themes from Group Notes

	Trolley	Ships	Connectivity of Parks	Other
<b>Group #1</b>	Yes along Union		Include walking paths with historic markers (creative markers); connectivity to open space	--Ralph's Gutt --Beachcomber --West's Point --Native American Era --Trash Cans-tobacco casts --No parking lots --Balance in terms of development --Make buildings mixed-use
<b>Group # 2</b>		Ships	Connect parks with a continuous walkway called the Ellen Pickering Strand; get access through Robinson South	--Preserve America Matching Grant Program --Rebuild some of the wharves --Preserve view from and to the water --How much can a tourist absorb --History shouldn't come at you (Don't overdo) --Models --Do not prettify what use to be there --Get rid of parking lots at the Strand --Maybe not important to save RTs
<b>Group # 3</b>	Yes along Union/Lee	Tall Ships at King Street Pier; include all ships from the past that are not there today; dock historic ships for tours		--Use symbols that link things thematically --Activities for children near Foot of King (interactive) --ODBC and parking lots block water --Living history performances --Railing, stairways --Long-lasting signage --Women in 1940's --Water as birth of City --Puppet shows --Art – Millennium Park (Chicago) --Historic Food (Boston) --Interpret all Eras (Cincinnati) --Annapolis

## **ALEXANDRIA WATERFRONT CULTURAL PERIODS**

1. American Indians (13,000 B.C. to 1608)	A. Paleolithic - hunting and gathering; nomadic, big game B. Archaic – more diverse subsistence; first pottery, small game, fishing C. Woodland - horticulture, 1 <sup>st</sup> villages, chiefdom level of society D. Contact - reduction, migration, conflict
2. Exploration & Early Regional Settlement	1608 -1731
3. Tobacco Port	1732-49
4. Development & Early Growth of Alexandria	1749-70
5. American Revolution; Birth of a Nation	1771-1814
6. International Port –Prosperity & Challenges Expansion of Street Grid, Land Area, Wharves	1805– Civil War (1860)
7. Secession & Civil War	1861-1865
8. Reconstruction & African American Neighborhoods	1865-1890
9. Industrialization	1891-1929
10. Early Historic Preservation & Tourism	1930-1940
11. Center for National Defense	1940-50
12. Bedroom Suburb/Urban Renewal/Modern Historic Preservation	1950-85
13. Urban Regional Center/Heritage Tourism & Arts Destination	1986-Present

## **ALEXANDRIA WATERFRONT CULTURAL PERIODS**

### ***A. USA - Witness to War***

THEME	PLACE
1. French and Indian War	Carlyle House West's Point-Braddock's Troops Landing
2. New Country Navigation	Jones Point – boundary stone, fort
3. Alexandria Surrenders to English -1814	Waterfront- Wharves and Warehouses
4. Civil War	Cameron St. Wharf—Ellsworth's Landing Lee Street Bakery & Ambulance Stables Wharves, including Quartermaster & Hay Wharves
5. World War I and II	U S Naval Torpedo Station (Torpedo Fact.) VA Shipbuilding Company-Jones Point

### ***B. Trade - World Connections/Navigation***

THEME	PLACE
1. Early Tobacco Trade	West's Point and Landing; warehouses
2. Post-Revolution through 19 <sup>th</sup> Century International trade	Surviving Warehouse buildings on King, Prince, Union, Strand, Duke streets Surviving Wharves—at Cameron, Oronoco (West's Pt.), Duke streets (Pt. Lumley) streets
3. Ferries	West's Point—foot of Oronoco St. King Street
4. Wholesale/Retail Shops	Tobacco, fish, oysters, grain/flour, lumber, guns, corn, coal, pottery, rum, fabric, etc. from England, Portugal, Spain, West Indies, etc.
5. Slave Trade	African Americans gathered on Strand waiting to be rowed to ships for export to Baltimore/ New Orleans Africans imported—Queen St. Wharf
6. Light House	Jones Point
7. Railroads	Union Street; Wilkes Street Tunnel
8. Alexandria Canal	Reconstructed Tide Lock-Montgomery St.

## ALEXANDRIA WATERFRONT CULTURAL PERIODS

### ***C. Entertainment and Leisure/ Culture, Arts, Historic Preservation and Tourism*** ***“Alexandria as a Leader in Preservation, Art and Amenities”***

THEME	PLACE
1. Taverns & Restaurants	“Orangetree” Tavern—Prince St. Wharf “Beachcomber”- 0 Prince Street Seaport Inn-Fitzgerald’s Warehouse Geminey Tavern—Swift Alley
2. Steamships/travel 19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> 3. Cruise Ships	King to Prince Street wharves Oronoco Street
3. Boating/Rowing	Old Dominion Boat Club Rowing Club-Oronoco Bay
4. Historic Buildings/Historic District	Carlyle House, King, Prince, etc. streets
5. Art Center-Archaeology Museum	Torpedo Factory and annexes

### ***D. Maritime Manufacture***

THEME	PLACE
Ship Construction/Repair Free African American ship carpenters - 18th Century - 19 <sup>th</sup> Century - 20 <sup>th</sup> Century - 20 <sup>th</sup> /21 <sup>st</sup> Century	1 <sup>st</sup> shipyard—Thos. Fleming--Point Lumley Harborside—Hunter’s Shipyard;-produced first Potomac River Longboat; Agnew Shipyard-W.T. Hart constructed Ford’s Landing—Marine Railway/Shipyard Jones Point—World War I-Va. Shipbuilding Co. Seaport Foundation
Ropewalk	Jones Point
Bakeries	Lee Street Site—Jamieson/Hills
Sugar Refining	Sugar imported for 2 refineries
Foundries	Harborside—Smith’s/Smith and Perkins Foundry for Steam Engines, Locomotives
Mills and Grain	206-204 S Union—Wattles Corn Mill Point Lumley – Pioneer Mill 106 S. Union—Roberts Feed, Grain, Hay
Sail lofts	Fitzgerald Warehouse; Roberdeau Wharf-400 S. Union St.
Coopers	Roberdeau Wharf—400 S. Union St.
Rum and Beer	Roberdeau Distillery/ Irwin Brewery on Roberdeau Wharf—400 S. Union St. Wales Brewery/Wharf—100 S. Union

## **ALEXANDRIA WATERFRONT CULTURAL PERIODS**

### ***E. Transforming the Landscape/Urbanization***

THEME	PLACE
Filling Bay - Banking out-Cutting Bluffs 1780s-1790s	Wharves from Oronoco to Duke Street east of Union Street Union Street and Strand created for North-South commerce
Alleys	Many alleys between Union and Strand created for East-West commerce
Points of Bay	Point Lumley West's Point
Rolling Road	Coming diagonally from southwest to West's Point (Oronoco St.) on south side of Ralphs Gutt (Oronoco Bay)
Grid Street Names	English Royal names before the Revolution, American Patriots after War
Merchants on Bluff/Market Square	Carlyle, Dalton, Ramsay, Fitzgerald, etc.
Filling to make parks (1960s-1970s)	Founders Park Oronoco Bay Park Waterfront Front
Filling waterfront World War I	Battery Cove-Jones Point

### ***F. Starting Over - Fires, Floods, and New Uses***

THEME	PLACE
Bakeries	Numerous fires on Union, Lee streets
Lumber Yard	Smoots Fire
S. Union Street/Prince Street Fire	100 S. Union, 100 Prince St.
Mills	Pioneer Mill, Wattles Mill
Foot of King Street	Ferry, O King Street



## **ALEXANDRIA WATERFRONT CULTURAL PERIODS**

### ***G. Creating Community from Many: Diversity, Ethnicity, Race & Religion***

Not many locations related to specific groups have been identified to date, but additional research can delineate various immigrant and religious groups over the decades. The waterfront was a place in which many first arrived in Alexandria; some actually filled in the bay and many others worked and established businesses on the waterfront.

A few Examples are provided:

#### **1. Immigrant Populations**

- African countries—only known area: Senegal-Gambia. Kirkpatrick's Wharf, Queen Street-1760s
- Scottish: William Ramsay—Ramsay Wharf, King Street; Ramsay House
- English: John Carlyle—Carlyle/Dalton Wharf, Cameron Street; Carlyle House
- Irish: Geminey Tavern, Swift Alley; Fitzgerald Warehouse and Wharf, O King St.;
- Welsh
- German
- West Indies—Daniel Roberdeau,—Wharf, Distillery, 400 S. Union Street

#### **2. Born in the Colonies**

John Dalton—Carlyle/Dalton Wharf, Cameron Street; Dalton House

Hugh West—West's Point

John West, Jr.—City Surveyor of first town grid and auctioneer—100 block Cameron Street

#### **3. Religions**

- Presbyterian
- Catholic
- Baptist
- Jewish
- Lutheran
- Quaker

#### **4. Paradox of Slavery, Interstate slave trade – Large Free Black population**